

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THERESA M. OWENS,,

Plaintiff,

v.

ELI LILLY AND COMPANY,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION No. 03-CV-01798(EGS)

Next Event:  
Scheduling Conference October 1, 2003

**JOINT RULE 16.3 REPORT**

Pursuant to Local Rule 16.3 and Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f), the attorneys for plaintiff and defendant conferred up to and including on September 23, 2004, and hereby submit the following succinct statement of all agreements reached and positions taken by the parties on matters about which there was a disagreement:

TOPIC NO. 1: Whether the case is likely to be disposed of by dispositive motion; and whether, if a dispositive motion has already been filed, the parties should recommend to the Court that discovery or other matters should await a decision on the motion.

POSITION OF PARTIES: It is too early to evaluate the likelihood that the defendant will bring a dispositive motion as the parties have not yet engaged in any substantial discovery.

TOPIC NO. 2: (a) The date by which any other parties shall be joined or the pleadings amended; and (b) whether some or all of the factual and legal issues can be agreed upon or narrowed.

POSITION OF PARTIES: (a) At the present time, none of the parties plan to join additional parties or amend the pleadings. The parties acknowledge that once discovery has

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begun, there may then be a need to join other parties or to amend the pleadings; (b) the parties agree that there are not yet any factual or legal issues that can be agreed upon or narrowed.

TOPIC NO. 3: Whether this case should be assigned to a magistrate judge for all purposes, including trial.

POSITION OF PARTIES: Plaintiff consents to having the case assigned to a magistrate judge. Defendant does not consent to having the case assigned to a magistrate judge at this time.

TOPIC NO. 4: Whether there is a realistic possibility of settling the case.

POSITION OF PARTIES: While the parties are not aware of any information that would preclude a realistic possibility of settling the case, the parties also note that a prediction on the likelihood of settlement is somewhat premature as the parties have not yet engaged in any substantial discovery.

TOPIC NO. 5: Whether the case could benefit from the Court's alternative dispute resolution ("ADR") procedures or some other form of alternative dispute resolution, and, if so, which procedure should be used and whether discovery should be stayed or limited pending completion of ADR.

POSITION OF PARTIES: The parties propose to have this case referred to Magistrate Judge Alan Kay for mediation after the completion of discovery.

TOPIC NO. 6: Whether the case can be resolved by summary judgment or motion to dismiss; the dates for filing dispositive motions and/or cross-motions, oppositions, and replies; and proposed dates for a decision of the motions.

POSITION OF PARTIES: Depending on the information that Defendant learns during discovery, Defendant may file motions for summary judgment or motions to dismiss. The parties have proposed various deadlines under Topic No. 8.

TOPIC NO. 7: Whether the parties should stipulate to dispense with the initial disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(1), Fed. R. Civ. P., and, if not, what, if any, changes should be made in the scope, form, or timing of those disclosures.

POSITION OF PARTIES: The parties agree and request the Court to dispose of the 26(a)(1) initial disclosures. The parties also agree that if plaintiff requests an extension of time to respond to defendant's discovery requests, plaintiff shall at least produce the following by the original deadline for responding to the discovery requests: (a) all medical records in her possession (or the possession of her attorneys); (b) authorizations to obtain medical records; (c) the identity and address of all known medical providers who have treated plaintiff and/or her mother; (d) the identity and address of the pharmacy, physician and/or hospital dispensing the DES at issue in this lawsuit; and (e) all documents and/or tangible objects in the possession of plaintiff and/or her attorneys regarding the identity of the manufacturer of the DES at issue in this lawsuit.

Defendant agrees that, within a week of the time that defendant obtains any medical records (other than medical records received directly from plaintiff), defendant shall send a copy of all such medical records to plaintiff's counsel.

TOPIC NO. 8: The anticipated extent of discovery, how long discovery should take, what limits should be placed on discovery; whether a protective order is appropriate; and a date for the

completion of all discovery, including answers to interrogatories, document production, requests for admissions, and depositions.

POSITION OF PARTIES: The parties agree that, pursuant to Fed. Rule 33, each party is limited to 25 interrogatories. The parties agree that the number of non-expert depositions should be limited to the following, whichever is greater: (a) 10 non-expert depositions or (b) the depositions of the plaintiff, any former or present husband of the plaintiff, her mother, and her father, as well as the depositions of any relevant medical providers or pharmacists. The parties agree that the duration of each deposition shall be limited to one (1) day or seven (7) hours, whichever is greater.

The parties suggest the following schedule:

December 30, 2003      Deadline for serving discovery requests.

January 29, 2004      Deadline for plaintiff to designate experts and provide expert reports, pursuant to Rule 26(a)(2).

February 27, 2004      Deadline for defendants to designate experts and provide expert reports, pursuant to Rule 26(a)(2).

April 28, 2004      All Discovery closed. The parties agree that experts for either side may be deposed until the close of discovery.

May 28, 2004      Deadline for filing and service of Dispositive Motions.

July 2004      Pre-Trial Conference.

TOPIC NO. 9: Whether the requirement of exchange of expert witness reports and information pursuant to Rule 26(a)(2), Fed. R. Civ. P., shall be modified and whether and when depositions of experts should occur.

POSITION OF PARTIES: The parties agree to make all expert witnesses available for deposition. Prior to the depositions, the parties agree to exchange expert reports pursuant to Rule 26(a)(2), except that the parties agree to dispense with the requirement of Rule 26(a)(2)(B) of a list of cases in which the witness has testified as an expert at trial or by deposition within the preceding four years. However, the parties may inquire into the topic of prior cases at the time of the deposition.

TOPIC NO. 10: In class actions, appropriate procedures for dealing with Rule 23 proceedings, including the need for discovery and the timing thereof, dates for filing a Rule 23 motion, and opposition and reply, and for oral argument and/or an evidentiary hearing on the motion and a proposed date for decision.

POSITION OF PARTIES: Not applicable.

TOPIC NO. 11: Whether the trial and/or discovery should be bifurcated or managed in phases, and a specific proposal for such bifurcation.

POSITION OF PARTIES: The parties agree that it is too early to determine whether the trial of this case should be bifurcated or managed in phases.

TOPIC NO. 12: The date for the pretrial conference (understanding that a trial will take place 30 to 60 days thereafter).

POSITION OF PARTIES: The parties request a pretrial conference in July 2004.

TOPIC NO. 13: Whether the Court should set a firm trial date at the first scheduling conference or should provide that a trial date will be set at the pretrial conference from 30 to 60 days after that conference.

POSITION OF PARTIES: The parties prefer that a firm trial date be set at the first scheduling conference.

TOPIC NO. 14: Such other matters that the parties believe may be appropriate for inclusion in a scheduling order.

POSITION OF PARTIES: The parties have no other matters that they believe need to be included in the scheduling order at this time.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

A. Plaintiff's:

This is a products liability/personal injury case arising from Plaintiff's in utero exposure to diethylstilbestrol ("DES"), a synthetic estrogen which was manufactured, marketed, sold, promoted and distributed by the Defendant to the Plaintiff's mother for the purpose of preventing miscarriage.

Plaintiff claims that as a result of her in utero exposure to DES, she has suffered injuries, including but not limited to, uterine and cervical malformations with resulting infertility, and incurred medical expenses for care and treatment, and suffered physical and mental pain.

Plaintiff claims that the Defendant is liable for said injuries based on negligence, strict liability, breach of warranty, and misrepresentation.

B. Defendant's:

Defendant Eli Lilly and Company ("Lilly") generally denies that it is liable to the Plaintiff under any of the Plaintiff's causes of action. While discovery has not yet commenced, Lilly believes that the Plaintiff will be unable to come forward with evidence sufficient to meet her burden of persuasion that Plaintiff was exposed in utero to DES in the first place, that any such

DES was manufactured or produced by Lilly, that any such DES caused the injuries of which the Plaintiff complains, and that Lilly breached any duties owed to the Plaintiff, breached any warranties, or made any material misrepresentations. Lilly has also asserted several affirmative defenses, including that the Plaintiff's claims may be barred by the applicable statute of limitations or laches, and by the learned intermediary doctrine.

STATUTORY BASIS FOR ALL CAUSES OF ACTION AND DEFENSES:

A. Plaintiff's:

The statutory basis for the Plaintiff's cause of action is 28 U.S.C. §1332(a) (diversity jurisdiction).

B. Defendant's:

Affirmative defenses asserted by the Defendant with a statutory basis are that the Plaintiff's claims may be barred by the statute of limitations and that the Plaintiff's claims may be barred and preempted by the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 24, 2003